

Appl. No. 10/048130
Reply to Office action of 2/7/2005

REMARKS

Minor corrections were made to the specification. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. Claims 2-6 and 8 have been canceled. Claim 9 has been added. Claims 1, 7 and 9 remain pending. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application, as amended, are requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner's comments have been considered, and it is submitted that the pending claims are definite.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Keys et al. The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 8 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by European patent application no. 0477913. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 3. As a consequence, these rejections are moot.

The Examiner rejected claims 3 and 6 under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious on consideration of Keys in view of Sakai et al. Claim 6 has been canceled. The limitations of claim 3 have been amended into claim 1.

Claim 1 as amended is directed to a vehicle door structure comprising a door body and a window pane. The vehicle window pane has an accurately curved vertical section with a single radius of curvature that corresponds to a radius of curvature of a predetermined sliding movement path followed by the vehicle window pane. The vehicle window pane also has a curved lateral section having a compound curvature of a continuous sequence of a plurality radii of curvature which are different from the single radius of curvature of the curved vertical section.

Keys discloses window 14. Sakai discloses an automobile door window glass system wherein the door window glass is formed such that the radius of curvature along any vertical section decreases in a downward direction.

The vehicle door structure of claim 1 having the vehicle window pane requires the vehicle window pane to have a single radius of curvature in vertical section. The pane has a compound curvature with a plurality of radii of curvature in lateral section. The radii of curvature from the lateral section are different from single radius of curvature

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from the vertical section. As indicated, Sakai discloses a radius of curvature which increases in a downward direction in the vertical section. Sakai does not point to a structure for a window pane requiring a plurality of radii curvature in the lateral section which are different from the single radius of curvature from the vertical section. The structure required by claim 1 allows the vertical section to move parallel to the predetermined sliding movement path. Not only is function improved, but as discussed in the specification, aesthetics of the window pane is improved. The vehicle door structure of claim 1 is non-obvious in view of the disclosures of Keys and Sakai.

The Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious on consideration of Keys in view of Sakai.

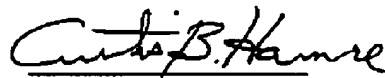
Claim 7 requires that the window pane be coincident in profile with the pocket opening in the door body at all locations of the sliding movement. Such coincidence in profile is possible with structure of the window pane required by claim 1. Sakai not only does not point to the structure required by claim 1, but also cannot achieve the coincidence in profile as required by claim 7. Claim 7 is also non-obvious.

Claim 9 finds basis in claim 7 and also in the Specification at page 14, lines 5-22 and page 15, lines 10-18. It is submitted that claim 9 is patentable over art of record.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and reexamination are requested. Allowance of claims 1 and 7 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Curtis B. Hamre
Reg. No.: 29,165
Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson, P.C.
225 South Sixth Street
Suite 2650
Minneapolis, MN 55402
612.455.3800